



THE HILLTOPPER

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Sandy Lake
Presbyterian Church

October 2023

from the Pastor's Desk

Dear Church,

For those of you who missed it, Rally Day (Sept 10) was a busy, yet wonderful Sunday of celebration. We looked at the text from the Jesus' sermon on the mount where he calls us a "city on a hill". This is the same place that Jesus calls his listeners "the light of the world." I am reminded that faith cannot be formed in a vacuum. We need each other in order to grow together to be Jesus. We cannot be a city by ourselves. And that beacon of light cannot exist without each other in that city. We DO life together and that matters, to ourselves and as our collective witness to the world.

This can feel overwhelming at time, but is also a beautiful picture of the community of God. As I continue to think about all that happened that morning I remember:

We cannot have a praise band with various gifts in different members. Otherwise it is just a soloist. Same with the choir!

We cannot give out 3rd grade bibles without people who give financial gifts to support children's education programming. We also cannot do it without volunteers who teach our children the Word of God or parents and grandparents who bring those kids to learn to love God.

We cannot have a noisy offering without a mission team who loves to share what God is doing, not just in Sandy Lake, but around the world. We cannot have a noisy offering without adults who have taught our children that loving Jesus is not just about what they get out of it, but how we take care of others. And we cannot have a noisy offering without the many, many people who brought their loose change in support of this effort. (The total to be divided between Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Earthquake relief and the Sudan Refugee Crisis was over \$280!!)

And finally that Sunday we had a Baptism! (Congrats Isabelle!!) And in our tradition, we believe that baptism is never a "me and Jesus" thing but an act of the church. We made promises to that child and we welcomed her into our family while also remembering God's love is freely given even before we (or our parents) accept that love in the sacrament!

We are a city on a hill. Thanks be to God! My hope as you read this newsletter is that you may decide to get more deeply involved in the life of light that we are privileged to be here at Sandy Lake. Maybe you pick something that is going on that you have never experienced and you attend. Maybe you invite a friend to church or funfest. Maybe you turn on your live stream if you have not been able to come back to worship and join us at home. Maybe you financially give to the ministry and mission of SLPC. Maybe you pray over what you have read in this newsletter- that God may be the one who is glorified in all we do.

We are a city on a hill. Thanks be to God.

Pastor Beth

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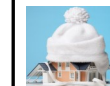
October 28
10:00am



A Stephen Ministry Church
"Christ Caring for People through People"



M-W-F 7-10am
Before/after worship
Other times as needed or by appointment



Boiler Fund Update

Goal: \$52,500 To date: \$29,608.41

Thank you for your generous contributions to the campaign to replace our aging boiler. A deposit was made last week to obtain the required permits and new equipment! Winter is coming! Additional contributions may continue to be made by cash, check, or direct deposit from a qualified IRA.



Our Deepest Sympathies

go out to the family and friends of Martha Schaeffer. May her memory be a blessing.



Operation Christmas Child:

Boxes – available in the back - are due to be returned by November 5th. You could also go to Samartianspurse.org/buildonline to create a box without going to the store! In addition, each box requires \$10 for transportation costs. Please mark your donation accordingly. Please see Kathy Klapiec if you have any questions.



CHURCH HAPPENINGS



Christian mission work involves a range of activities undertaken by individuals and groups who are driven by their faith and a genuine desire to make a positive impact on the world—through spiritual guidance, humanitarian aid, education, healthcare, and showing God’s love.

Our church supports many programs globally as well as in nearby communities. For the month of October, your Mission team will be gathering sweatpants, leggings, and underwear for Oakview Elementary School. Sizes are 6, 8, 10-12, and 14-16. If you are out shopping, pick up one of those items. They can be placed in the laundry basket at the back of the sanctuary. Thanks from our young students and the Mission team!



Fall Cleanup!
Join us for Fun and Fellowship! on Saturday, October 28th from 10am—12pm! We will prepare the church for winter... Many hands make light work!

WHEN: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2023
WHERE: SANDY LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TIME: GAMES START AT 3:00 PM
BRING A SNACK TO SHARE. HOT DOGS, BUNS, AND DRINKS PROVIDED
WACKY AUCTION, GAMES, FOOD CRAFTS
LOTS OF FUN



Elder for October: Michele Redfoot

Elder for November:

Deacon for October: Judy Riggs

Deacon for November: Karen Mowry



Desserts for Meals on Wheels

First Friday of the Month

October: Sandy Lindsey

November: Michele Redfoot



CHOIR Come and make a joyful noise to the Lord. Choir meets on Thursdays at 7 p.m. All are welcome to come join us every week as we prepare music for worship (and have a lot of fun along the way). We also welcome singers who would like to join us just for the Christmas cantata.



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11 AM	2 Morning prayer 7:00 AM	3	4	5 Choir practice 7 PM	6	7
8 Sunday School 9:30 Kid's breakfast Worship 11 AM	9 Morning prayer 7:00 AM	10 SESSION MEETING 7 PM	11	12 Choir practice 7 PM	13	14
15 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11 AM Fall Fun Fest!	16 Morning prayer 7:00 AM	17	18	19 Choir practice 7 PM	20	21
22 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11 AM	23 Morning prayer 7:00 AM	24	25	26 Choir practice 7 PM	27	28 Fall Cleanup 10 AM
29 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11 AM	30 Morning prayer 7:00 AM	31				